

INTERNATIONAL FINN CLASS MASTERS WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP RULES

INTRODUCTION

The Masters World Championships of the International Finn Class shall be governed by the Rules of the International Finn Class (IFA), the relevant Racing Rules of Sailing in force at the time of the event and the these rules shall be binding on the Organizing Authority (OA) unless varied in writing.

All documents and messages concerning this event shall be written in the English language and the language spoken shall be English.

ELIGIBILITY

The Masters World Championship shall be held on an annual basis and is open to all Finn sailors who during the calendar year of the event shall be in their 40th year or older.

- The Classifications shall be as follows: -
- World Master (the overall winner)
- Master (winner 40-49 years old)
- Grand Master (winner 50-59)
- Grand Grand Master (winner 60-69)
- Legend (winner 70+).

ANNUAL MASTERS MEETING

An Annual Masters Meeting (AMM) shall be held during the Masters World Championship Week. The time and place to be fixed by the Vice-President (Masters) and shall be published on the FWM website www.finnworldmaster.com at least one month before the Meeting, an Agenda which includes:

Approval of the Minutes of the last AMM.

Report of the Vice-President (Masters)

Finance Report

Election of 4 members of the Masters Committee to stand for a period of 4 years.

Approval of venue and date of Masters World Championships to be held two years after the current Championships.

Election of the Masters President for a 4-year period. This President shall be elected Vice-President (VP) (Masters) by the IFA Annual General Meeting.

Any item presented to the Masters President in writing at least two calendar months before the Meeting.

Finn Masters may, by a simple majority, decide whether any other business should be added to the Agenda, such to be handed over to the VP (Masters) at the latest 24 hours before the start of the AMM.

CHAMPIONSHIP VENUES

The Masters World Championship shall be sailed on waters that have a record of stable wind directions and good breezes; variable and very light airs venues shall be avoided.

The course of the Masters World Championship shall be exclusive and separate.

The date and place for the Masters World Championship shall be published on www.finnworldmaster.com by the Vice-President (Masters) no later than 12 months prior to the event.

The Annual Masters Meeting shall decide on the venue of the World Championship to be held in the second year following the current World Championship. Nominations for the venue shall be submitted to the AMM for their consideration and preferably presented during the AMM by the candidate organization. The choice of this venue shall be by a majority show of hands at the AMM.

The venue shall be situated within Europe other than once every four years when it shall be a World venue.

ADVERTISING

The World Championship will be a Category C event pursuant to the ISAF Advertising code.

The OA may require all participating boats to display the event sponsor's advertising in accordance with RRS

ORGANIZING AUTHORITY (OA)

Each Organizing Authority (OA) has to organize and manage the Championship in close conjunction with the Vice-President (Masters).

ENTRY FORMS AND NOTICE OF RACE (NOR)

The Organising Authority shall publish the official NOR and relevant Entry Forms in the English language no later than four months prior to the event. The NOR whilst abiding by the RRS shall be subject to the express agreement of the Vice President (Masters)

The entry fee shall be agreed with the Vice-President (Masters) and shall include the cost of the award dinner. Entry dates will normally close four weeks before the start of the regatta. No extra entry fee shall be charged for late entries. In addition there is a fee of €10 for the Masters organizational activities

INSURANCE, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION DUES AND IFA DUES

All eligible boats shall provide the current IFA Class sticker for the year of the Championship plus an insurance Certificate showing a minimum indemnity limit of € 1,000,000 or equivalent in another currency

RACE OFFICER (PRO)

The PRO shall be ISAF qualified to run an International ISAF event and his appointment shall be subject to the approval of the OA and the Vice President (Masters)

SAILING INSTRUCTIONS (SI)

The SI's shall be published by the OA in accordance with the provisions of current RRS, ISAF Race Standards and IFA Class Rules and approved by the Vice President (Masters) no later than 2 months prior to the event. The VP (Masters) will, at least 9 month before, provide standard SI to an OA for next Championship. These standard SI will be adapted on limited items to the local organization.

INTERNATIONAL JURY

There must be an International Jury in accordance with RRS Appendix M. It shall include at least five members (2 from the organizing country and 3 from other countries) who have proven experience in on the water judging of RRS 42 (Propulsion). At least one should have practical Finn racing experience. The International Jury should meet with the IFA Representative (Vice-President (Masters) before the first race for a policy briefing. The Jury Chairman should not be of the same Nationality as the organising country.

RACE OFFICE

Starting from the first measurement day the Race Office should be open daily from 8.30 am until 7 pm.

Preliminary race results must be available as soon as possible after each day's racing and posted onto the Official Notice Board

The Official Notice Board must be in, or close to, the Race Office.

The GPS coordinates of the Race Office will be mentioned in the Notice of Race.

MEASUREMENT

All eligible boats shall present a current valid IFA Measurement Certificate.

The measurement procedure will be considered between the OA and the VP (Masters).

Boats will be measured in accordance with the latest Class Rules and amendments thereto.

All eligible boats shall be measured before racing in accordance with the prescribed measurements shown below.

The measurer may check any measurements within the class rules at any time during the event. At the measurement the following items shall be scrutinised:

Hull

Weight, including check of amount and location of weight correctors.

Arrangements to prevent the mast and rudder from becoming detached in a capsize.

Masts

Max 2 per boat. Weight, centre of gravity and mast limit marks.

Booms

Boom limit marks. and limiting stop with the boom attached to the mast.

Centreboard

Maximum projection from the keel.

Sails

Max. 2 per boat. Only Sails that have been certified according the Finn Class Rules shall be presented. It is incumbent on each competitor to ensure that all sails are measured and the OA shall make no provision for sails to be measured, which will be entirely the responsibility of each participant

SKIPPERS BRIEFING

A briefing meeting for the sailors should be held before the start of the practice race, or the first race if no practice race is scheduled. The Race Officer has to be present. Sailing Instructions should be available well in advance so sailors can ask questions.

Additional skippers meetings may be requested by the VP (Masters) and/or his committee.

COURSES

The Olympic triangular course or the trapezoid course with inner- and outer loops will be sailed.

There shall be a maximum number of 7 races to be sailed over 5 days or as stipulated by the PRO in accordance with weather conditions.

No more than 2 races shall be sailed in one day.

Races should be approximately 90 minutes in duration as a maximum.

GROUPS

When the racing will be in 1 group there will be 7 races scheduled from Monday till Friday.

When the amount of boats as reported in the Race Office (so not the entries) exceeds 150 there will be sailed in 4 groups. Each group will sail 2 times against every other group. This gives 6 races.

A final race will be sailed on the last day. For this race the competitors will be divided in the first 50% and the second 50% of the ranking after the previous races. The first 50% will be defined as "Gold fleet" and the second 50% will be defined as "Silver fleet".

COURSE DIRECTION

The Starting vessel should display the approximate magnetic compass bearing from the leeward mark to the windward mark in clear, large numbers.

BLACK FLAGGED RACES

The Committee boat shall ensure that it is able to post all boats numbers that have been black-flagged in a manner that is legible from a reasonable distance.

THE START LINE

The start line shall be equivalent to 1.5 times the length of the Finn times the number of starting boats. Where there are more than 60 boats on any one start there should be a middle mark placed in the centre of the line. Such mark shall not constitute a mark of the course for the purpose of the "round the ends rule"

In addition to the Committee Boat there shall be a pin end boat that shall repeat all flag and sound signals made by the Committee Boat.

WINDWARD MARK BOAT

Wherever possible there should be a mark boat at the windward mark displaying a clearly visible shape or flag in such a manner as to assist identification of the windward mark. This is particularly important in poor visibility.

MINIMUM/MAXIMUM WIND STRENGTH AND TIME LIMIT

These shall be as prescribed in the SI's but no race shall be started in less than 5 knots of wind measured on the Committee Boat at deck level.

No race shall be started in more than 20 knots of wind measured on the Committee Boat at deck level.

The time limit must be specified in the SI's.

SCORING

The Masters World Championship shall be awarded to the winner of a series of 7 races, of which 4 shall be completed to constitute a series. The Sailing Instructions shall state that the Low Point Scoring System be used, modified so that if 5 races are sailed, the result of each boat's worst race shall be discarded.

The scoring for the age groups (Masters, Grand Masters, Grand Grand Masters and Legends) uses the points the competitors got in the overall results.

RESCUE BOATS

There must be at least one RIB rescue boat per 20 competitors.

PRIZES

The Organizing Authority shall provide a first prize for each race, and one overall prize for the first ten competitors.

There are additional prizes from the Masters organization for the following: -

- Master (Winner 40-49 years old)
- Grand Master (winner 50-59)
- Grand Grand Master (winner 60-69)
- Legend (winner 70+)

with prizes for the first 3 competitors in each category.

All legends will receive a participation prize from the VP (Masters)

The "Golden Crutch" will be awarded to the first sailor outside the prizes in the overall results.

The prize giving ceremony should be held as soon as possible after the end of the last race.

FINAL DECISIONS

The final decisions on any matters not covered by the RRS and the International Jury shall rest with IFA.

ON SHORE FACILITIES RECOMMENDATIONS

Competitors' Accommodation

Competitors' accommodation must be as close together as possible and every effort should be made for accommodation to be within walking or biking distance from the boat park.

Accommodation and Transport for Class Officers

The Organizing Authority shall pay for the Class Measurer as well as the Jury

Other facilities

The following facilities should be available:

- Free parking
- Campsites with special rates, including sanitary facilities and electric power supply. These sites must be in walking or biking distance.
- Communication services for competitors and press
- Fresh water in the dinghy park
- Launching facilities sufficient to launch the fleet in due time
- Emergency medical facilities
- Security in camping sites and boat park.